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Message Text

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ORIGIN STR-04

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 AGRE-00 CIAE-00
COME-00 EB-08 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SP-02 TRSE-00
FRB-03 OMB-01 /050 R

DRAFTED BY STR:MBSMITH:ATN
APPROVED BY STR:MBSMITH
STATE:EB/FTD:WBREW
STATE:EB/ITP:WBARRACLOUGH(INFO)
----------044198 152255Z /66
P R 152129Z AUG 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY
INFO USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: ETRD, JA

SUBJECT: TEXTILES: MFA RENEWAL

REF: GENEVA 6870 (NOTAL)

GENEVA FOR PHELAN

1. CHIEF TEXTILE NEGOTIATOR, MINISTER MICHAEL B. SMITH (STR), WILL BE IN KOREA FROM AUGUST 23 THROUGH AUGUST 30 ON BILATERAL TEXTILE NEGOTIATIONS. HOWEVER, BECAUSE OF KEY ROLE JAPANESE WILL BE PLAYING IN MFA RENEWAL PROCESS, INCLUDING HOPED-FOR FULL ADHERENCE TO US-SPONSORED PROTOCOL, DEPARTMENT BELIEVES IT IMPORTANT THAT SMITH AND SEVERAL MEMBERS US TEX DEL VISIT TOKYO ON RETURN LEG, I.E., AUGUST 31 AND/OR SEPTEMBER 1. PURPOSE WOULD BE TO TALK WITH KEY
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GOJ MFA TEXTILE OFFICIALS (SAKAI OF MITI AND TREATY OFFICE PERSONNEL) RE POSSIBLE GOJ DIFFICULTIES IN SIGNING PROTOCOL.

2. BACKGROUND OF MATTER IS AS FOLLOWS: THE U.S. TOGETHER WITH EC, JAPAN, HONG KONG, KOREA, AND SOME OTHER SMALLER IMPORTING AND EXPORTING COUNTRIES, WORKED ASSIDUOUSLY DURING JULY MFA RENEWAL SESSION IN GENEVA TO GAIN SUPPORT FOR

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DOCUMENT (KNOWN AS COM/TEX/W/44) WHICH WOULD PROVIDE AVENUE FOR MFA RENEWAL FOR FOUR YEARS WITH NO CHANGES TO MFA TEXT. KEY PHRASE IN DOCUMENT WAS SENTENCE AFFIRMING THOSE COUNTRIES' BELIEF THAT QUOTE REASONABLE DEPARTURES QUOTE FROM RIGID APPLICATION OF MFA TEXT WERE POSSIBLE AND SANCTIONED UNDER TERMS OF ARTICLE 4 OF EXISTING MFA. GOJ DELEGATION SUPPORTED US PROPOSAL THAT GATT DIRECT GENERAL BE FORMALLY ASKED TO OPEN UP A PROTOCOL INCORPORATING THIS VIEW ALTHOUGH GOJDEL ADVISED US AND OTHER PARTICIPANTS THAT GOJ TREATY OFFICE MIGHT CONSTRUE DOCUMENT AS MODIFYING THE ACTUAL MFA TEXT. GOJ APPARENTLY NOW FEELS THAT COM/TEX/W/-44 WOULD MODIFY MFA, ALTHOUGH OUR BELIEF IS THIS MIGHT BE THE TREATY OFFICE TALKING AND NOT EITHER MITI OR THE FOREIGN OFFICE. IN ANY EVENT, IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT GOJ GET BEHIND PROTOCOL WITH VIGOR IF MFA IS TO BE RENEWED. FYI WORDS AND THEORY BEHIND QUOTE REASONABLE DEPARTURES QUOTE CAME FROM HONG KONG NOT RPT NOT AN IMPORTING COUNTRY WHICH MAKES GOJ AMBIVILENCE AND RELUCTANCE ON THIS MATTER ALL THE MORE PUZZLING. ENDFYI. WITHOUT THIS PROTOCOL (INCLUDING JAPAN'S SUPPORT AND PARTICIPATION), WE DO NOT BELIEVE MFA CAN BE RENEWED WITHOUT MORE RESTRICTIVE CHANGES - IF AT ALL.

3. BECAUSE OF COMPLEXITY THIS ENTIRE MATTER, US TEXT DEL WOULD APPRECIATE OPPORTUNITY BRIEF EMBASSY UPON ARRIVAL TOKYO FROM SEOUL AND THEN MEET WITH SAKAI AND APPROPRIATE
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TREATY OFFICE AND FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS FOR FULL TOUR D'HORIZON, HOPEFULLY AT LEAST ONE FULL DAY OF CONVERSATIONS. ACCORDINGLY, EMBASSY REQUESTED MAKE RESERVATION FOR FOUR SINGLES AT HOTEL OKURA AUGUST 31 AND SEPTEMBER 1. US TEX DEL WILL LEAVE FOR WASHINGTON SEPTEMBER 2. PRECISE ARRIVAL TIME FROM KOREA WILL BE TELEGRAPHED FROM EMBASSY SEOUL PRIOR TO AUGUST 30. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TEXTILES, AGREEMENTS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 15-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MBSMITH:ATN
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770294-0372
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770860/aaaabyzx.tel
Line Count: 101
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Litigation History:
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1600176
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TEXTILES: MFA RENEWAL
TAGS: ETRD, JA
To: TOKYO
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/e624635a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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